

REMARKS

The Office Action dated July 14, 2004 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 2, 5, 11, 14 and 20-30 are amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Claims 1, 10 and 19 are canceled, without prejudice. No new matter has been added, and no new issues are raised that require further consideration and/or search. Thus, claims 2-9, 11-18 and 20-30 are pending in the present application, and are respectfully submitted for consideration.

As a preliminary matter, the Office Action indicated that claims 2-4, 11-13 and 20-22 contained allowable subject matter, and would be allowable if amended to be in independent form. The applicants amend claims 2, 11 and 20 to be placed in independent form including all the limitations of canceled claims 1, 10 and 19, respectively. Thus, applicants submit that these claims are in condition for allowance.

Claims 1, 10 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,229,821 (Bharucha et al.) in view of "RTP": A Transport Protocol for Real-Time Applications" (Schulzrinne et al.). Because claims 1, 10 and 19 are canceled in the present amendment, this rejection is rendered moot.

Claims 5, 9, 14-18 and 23-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) allegedly being unpatentable over Bharucha and Schulzrinne as applied to claims 1, 10 and 19, and

further in view of “The SwIPe Security Protocol” (Ioannidis). Claims 5, 14 and 23 are amended to be dependent from allowable claims 2, 11 and 20, respectively. Thus, claims 5, 9, 14-18 and 23-27 depend directly or indirectly from allowable independent claims, and the rejection is rendered moot.

It is submitted that each of claims 2-9, 11-18 and 20-30 recite subject matter that is neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited references, either alone or in combination. It is therefore respectfully requested that all of claims 2-9, 11-18 and 20-30 be allowed and passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicants respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William F. Nixon', written over a horizontal line.

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